obtained. Since the Committee is yet to have its first meeting, no recommendations of the Committee are available at present.

(c) BIS has developed standards for a large number of products. It is also operating the Certification Marks Scheme under which goods are certified for conformance to standards. Various measures including consumer awareness drive have been taken to improve the enforcement of this Scheme. The State Governments have also been requested to ensure strict enforcement of Quality Control Orders.

Demand for strict law against spurious and counterfeit products

5235. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is persistent demand to make the manufacture of spurious and counterfeit product a cognizable offence with severe punishment;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether Government propose to being suitable changes in the laws to check the manufacture of such consumer items; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The subject matter of spurious and counterfeit products fall within the purview of a number of enactments like the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, the Trade and Merchandise Marks Act, 1958, etc. There legislations are administered by a number of Ministries such as the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the Ministry of Industry etc. The Ministry of Industry has introduced the Trade and Merchandise Marks (Amendment) Bill, 1993 in the Lok Sabha on 19-4-93 which provides for enhanced penalities for applying false trade maks, false trade descriptions, etc.

New Items under Consumer Protection Act

5236. SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) what are the names of items which have been covered under Consumer Protection Act at present :

(b) whether Government propose to include some more items under the Provisions of this Act; and

(c) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) All goods (as defined under the Sale of Goods Act, 1930) and services which are purchased or hired for a consideration are covered under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986. However, goods purchased for resale or commercial purpose and services rendered free of charge or under a contract of perssonal services are not covered under the Consumer Protection Act.

(b) and (c) At present, there is no such proposal